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3 Sections, 32 Pages

Jambo Creek Bicentennial is June 9-11 at Mishicot Sportsman's Club grounds

If your name is Vieau or if you are a history buff, the place to be on June 9 - 11, 1995 is at the Jambo Creek Bicentennial to be held on the Mishicot Sportsman's Club grounds at Jambo Creek, just minutes from Mishicot.

In 1795, an agent of the Northwest Fur Company of Canada, named Jacques Vieau, came to the Jambo Creek area, two miles west of present-day Mishicot. He landed at Two Creeks and then backpacked overland to Jambo Creek, where he erected a fur trading post.

Jacques Vieau was a full-blooded Frenchman born in lower Canada. He was described as 6 foot in height, weighing 210-215 pounds, clean shaven, light hair which inclined to curl, a full round and happy face, naturally temperate as to drink, and having a happy, sociable disposition which made him very popular among whites and Indians.

The trading post was the first white settlement of any kind in what is now Manitowoc County. It operated for about two decades.

Jacques Vieau traded his goods for furs with the Ottawa and Potawatomi Indians. Because they could not pronounce his name, the area was named Jambo Creek.

A one-room frame schoolhouse was built in 1873 near the trading

post site, replacing an older log building. In later years, a Jambo Creek Community Club was organized and met at the school.

In 1922, the club marked the location of the home of the first white inhabitants of Manitowoc County by setting up a six-foot high memorial boulder. The rock, of native granite, was hauled one mile to its present site using a stoneboat and a team of four horses. It

stands 60 rods (996 feet) north of the location of the original fur trading post, and has a bronze plaque placed on it in memory of Jacques Vieau.

The stone and plaque were set in the front yard of the Jambo Creek School. Though the school is now gone, the stone remains in place, across the road from the Mishicot Sportsman's Club build-

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Pictured in period costume (from left) for the Jambo Creek Bicentennial celebration, slated June 11th, are Stella Johanek, Mike Johanek, Marguerite Couchette, Paul Londo and Curt Eckstein.

Photo submitted

Jambo Creek...

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ing. It is located two miles west of Mishicot—Highway 147 to Jambo Creek Road and then one mile north.

Local descendants in this immediate area are Leo Vieau who is the great-great-grandson of Jacques Vieau. Numerous Vieau descendants are making plans to attend this 200th anniversary.

The public is welcome to the three-day event which will include an encampment and reenactment of the French fur trade era. Fr. Thomas and the Habitants of New France will be present to bring to life that period of history.

Fr. Thomas is a first person historical persona created by Tom Fern over the last 18 years. Tom is currently working with the LaCrosse-based Midwest Consortium for Living History and is actively involved in the development

of first person historical interpreting as a means of teaching history.

Events scheduled are kids', women's and men's hawk throws; men's and women's seneca runs; and firestarting competitions. Grounds will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 9; 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 10; and 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 11.

Another stone will be dedicated and demonstrations will be held throughout the event. Take the family and enjoy looking back on an early way of life of the trappers, traders, missionaries, soldiers, and voyagers from the 1750s through 1840.

The Jacques Vieau Bicentennial is sponsored by the Mishicot Sportsman's Club, the Mishicot Area Growth and Improvement Committee, and Fox Hills with the help and cooperation of landowners in the Town of Gibson area.

Wilderness camping for Jambo Creek Days is available at 4-H Camp TaPaWingo which is linked to the Mishicot Sportsman's Club by the Ice Age Trail. For camping reservations, call either 1-414-755-2785 or 1-414-755-2746.

For detailed information on the Jambo Creek Bicentennial, phone 1-414-755-2525.



The three Lakeshore area Rotary and Manitowoc Sunrise) raised with its Lakeshore Rotary Gal dancing to Big Band music, and other mixer events, according Participating in the check pres club (from left) Robert Gahl, Tw Noon; Kate Mealy of Peter's Pa Sunrise Club.

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